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Measure Z Committee
c/o County Administrative Office
825 Fifth Street
Eureka, California 95501

RE: Letter of Support for Public Works Department Project Traffic Signal at Oak and F Street

I am a resident in the Rosewood neighborhood and I often use the intersection at Oak Street and F Street. I have serious safety concerns with crossing that intersection, both as a driver and a pedestrian. This intersection needs a traffic signal. The purpose of Measure Z funding is to maintain and enhance public safety. A traffic signal at the intersection of Oak and F Street will fulfill that goal.

My primary concern is pedestrian safety for my school-aged daughter and her classmates. This intersection is one block from Grant Elementary School and four blocks from our house. Even during this COVID year, my daughter and I walk to school at least once a week. There is a very real sense of danger when we cross the street. The volume of traffic on F street is too great, the speed of the cars is too high, and we have to wait too long in order to safely cross. In fact, my 6-year-old daughter wrote a poem about F Street:

Busy busy busy F.
Good thing I don't live on F.
Busy busy busy F.
Because it's loud.

If a 6-year-old understands the dangers of F Street, then surely the Measure Z committee does as well. Over a year ago, the Public Works Department committed to the Grant Elementary School Community to install a traffic signal at this intersection. This funding will help them achieve that goal.

As a driver, I try to avoid driving on F Street when traveling north because it is difficult to turn left. My view is often impeded from parked cars and I am forced to inch my car forward into the oncoming lane in order to turn. This intersection needs a traffic signal. When driving to and from Grant Elementary School (when I must cross F street), I often have to wait several minutes in order to find a break in the traffic large enough to cross both lanes safely. Oncoming traffic speeds are much greater than the 30mph posted limit, and I have to slam on the gas in order to reach the other side of the street without being hit. Others have not been so lucky. The early 2020 crashes at this intersection only further demonstrate the need for this signal.

I encourage the Measure Z Committee to fund in full the Public Works Department's Measure Z application for the construction of a desperately needed traffic signal at the intersection of Oak and F Streets.

Sincerely,



Jocelyn Gibbons